

Message Text

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16

ORIGIN CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-07 USIA-06 /029 R

DRAFTED BY CU/EE:CBSMITH:BH

APPROVED BY CU/EE:SGWISE

EUR/EE:JSEYMOUR

INR:PCOSTOLANSKI

CU:CACHAPMAN (INFO)

----- 082270

R 121743Z NOV 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, YO

SUBJECT: IV PROGRAM: SLAVKO FRAS

1. FRAS DEPARTED U.S. NOV 5 AND WAS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE
LJUBLJANA NOV 6.

2. ESCORT-INTERPRETER CHARACTERIZED TRIP AS USEFUL ON
BALANCE DESPITE ONE PROBLEM. TRIP BEGAN ON BAD NOTE WHEN
FRAS TOOK APPARENT EXCEPTION TO SCHEDULED INCLUSION OF
STATE INR OFFICER PAUL COSTOLANSKI IN COURTESY CALL ON
EUR/EE OFFICERS ANDREWS AND SEYMOUR. ALTHOUGH COSTOLANSKI
WAS LISTED IN WRITTEN PROGRAM GIVEN FRAS AT OUTSET OF
VISIT, FRAS MADE NO COMMENT BEFORE THE MEETING (WHICH,
AS IT TURNS OUT, COSTOLANSKI DID NOT ATTEND.) FRAS
AFTERWARDS COMMENTED TO ESCORT AND THEN TO YUGOSLAV
EMBASSY, AND EMBASSY OFFICIAL MENTIONED SUBJECT (IN LOW
KEY) TO CU/EE PROGRAM OFFICER.

3. REMAINDER OF PROGRAM WAS SATISFACTORY, WITH PARTICU-
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LARLY GOOD APPOINTMENTS AT NEW YORK TIMES AND BOSTON

GLOBE. TIMES MEETING WITH DEPUTY MANAGING EDITOR
SEYMOUR TOPPING HAD A FEW POTENTIALLY UNPLEASANT MOMENTS
WHEN FRAS CRITICIZED TIMES CORRESPONDENT IN BELGRADE AND
POSED SHARP QUESTIONS ON TIMES' ATTITUDE TOWARD SLOVENE

MINORITY IN AUSTRIA. TOPPING REPORTEDLY TOOK THESE WELL
HOWEVER AND VISIT ENDED ON FRIENDLY NOTE.

4. FRAS FOUND STOPS IN SMALLER TOWNS AND VISITS TO
SMALLER NEWSPAPERS PARTICULARLY PLEASANT AND USEFUL,
AND EXPRESSED HIS OVERALL FAVORABLE IMPRESSIONS AT END
OF VISIT. KISSINGER

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